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ABSTRACT

American literature is brought to life for Secondary students (grades 9-12) through this book which presents over 145 ready-to-use, interdisciplinary activities--for use with any American literature curriculum. The activities aim to improve writing skills, encourage critical thinking and literary analysis, and build vocabulary. Flexible enough for use with a variety of interest and ability levels, the activities in the book are organized into seven chronological sections--from colonial times to the present: (1) The Colonial Era, 1492-1760 (Columbus to Franklin); (2) The Revolution, 1760-1800 (Franklin to Paine); (3) a New Literature, 1800-1840 (Irving to Poe); (4) Independence in Literature, 1840-1870 (Emerson to Alcott); (5) Realism and Naturalism, 1870-1916 (Twain to Masters); (6) Social Change, 1917-1945 (Sandburg to Wright); (7) Into the Future, 1946-present (Williams to Angelou). The book includes a list of skills taught for each lesson, background information for the teacher for each activity, complete answer keys, projects for extended learning, a reproducible historical chronology of the time period studied, and bibliographies of further reading for each section. A list of suggested authors for each section and an index of literary terms are attached. (RS)

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